(c) No new head Post Offices can be created in view of the extent ban orders imposed by the Government. The case of Pattamundai can be examined on merits only after the ban orders are lifted.

(d) No, Sir.

Corruption in Bharat Leather Corporation

1758. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER:
SHRI J. P. GOYAL:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain cases of corruption in Bharat Leather Corporation have been brought to the notice of the Government by workers' Union;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry into the alleged corruption charges has been conducted by Government; and

(c) whether any action has been taken against the corrupt officials of the Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) to (c) The Bharat Leather Corporation workers' Union has made various allegations of corruption and mismanagement against the Management of the Company. The allegations are under investigation.

Production of optic fibre cables by Hindustan Cables

1759. PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Cables Limited is taking up the production of optic fibre cables; and

(b) if so, what is the cost of the project and the quantity per annum proposed to be produced in the first phase?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) and (b) M/s. Hindustan Cables Limited have submitted a project report for setting up a plant with a capacity of 40,000 fibre Kilometers of optic fibre cables and 610 associated matching optical line systems per year. The cost of the project would be Rs.2866.98 lakhs. They will in the first phase manufacture: (a) Cabling from imported fibres; (b) Assembly of Optical line system with fully imported pretested line system modules procured under SKD condition; (c) Setting up of in-house R&D facilities.

Tyre prices

1760. SHRI L. GANESAN:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRIMATI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what had been rise in price of tyres during the last three years, year-wise percentage;

(b) whether there is any proposal to reduce the price of tyres; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) Indian tyre industry manufactures over two hundred varieties of tyres with about five hundred tread patterns. Tyre companies have revised prices of different types of tyres manufactured by them at different times during the last three years.

(b) and (c) Tyres are not subject to any price and distribution control. A close watch is, however, being maintained by the Government over prices of tyres as well as their raw materials to maintain reasonable stability in the prices of both tyres and raw material inputs.

Shortage of spare parts for Maruti vehicles

1761. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
DR. SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many vehicles, category-wise, Maruti Udyog has produced so far;

(b) whether Government are aware of the shortage of spare parts for the vehicles; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken for easy availability of spare parts throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) The number of vehicles produced upto the end of July, 1985 is as under:—

Maruti-800 Cars—24,743
Maruti-DX Cars—9,124
Vans—7,276

(b) Instances of shortage of some imported spare parts have come to Government's notice.

(c) Government have impressed upon Maruti Udyog Ltd. to make concerted efforts for accelerated indigenisation of maintenance spares and meanwhile make arrangements for import of required quantity.

Industrially backward districts in Kerala

1762: SHRI C. HARIDAS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many districts in Kerala have been declared as Industrially backward districts;

(b) what type of assistance Central Government have been extending to such districts for development and what is the progress made;

(c) whether Mallappuram has been declared an Industrially backward district and if so, the details of assistance rendered and the present proposals for its development; and

(d) if not, whether there is any proposal to declare Mallappuram as a backward district; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) and (b) 7 districts in Kerala have been declared as industrially backward and are eligible for graded rates of Central Subsidy; the details of which are given in the Booklet on "Incentives for Industries in Backward Areas" read with Press Note No. 14/1/83-DBA-I dated 9-4-85; copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

During the last three years an amount of Rs. 502.99,339/- has been disbursed under the Central Investment Subsidy Scheme. Year-wise break-up is as follows:

Year	Amount
1982-83 . .	40,23,915
1983-84 . . .	29,19,700
1984-85 . . .	4,33,55,724
	5,02,99,339